



HAWAII STATE
DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH

Advisory

As of April 20, 2006

SAFETY OF WAIKIKI AND ALA MOANA BEACHES

- All evidence to date tells us that the Waikiki and Ala Moana beaches are as safe as they were before the sewage spill in to the Ala Wai, which occurred on March 24, 2006. Bacteria levels in the water are at normal levels seen before the spill occurred.
- At this time, the Department of Health has not received any reports from physicians of increased or unusual cases of illness related to Waikiki and Ala Moana.
- The Department of Health currently does not test sand at beaches. There are no national standards or scientific basis to judge whether a certain level of bacteria in sand is high or low. Without this baseline, any test results would be inconclusive.
- Bacteria exist naturally in sand, water, dirt and most items and surfaces people come into contact with on a daily basis, and we normally don't get sick.
- To protect against infection, wash hands often and clean open cuts or wounds with soap and clean water. Keep wounds clean, dry and covered. See a doctor if a wound becomes red, warm, painful or swollen.